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DIRECTORATE OF  
INTELLIGENCE

# *Central Intelligence Bulletin*

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France: De Gaulle has given NATO Secretary General Brosio the strong impression that France will not withdraw from the Atlantic Alliance in 1968.

In a general statement of the French position, De Gaulle told Brosio he did not now foresee sufficient reason to abandon the North Atlantic Treaty. He also said that according to his interpretation of the treaty, a signatory could not denounce it until 1969 or withdraw before 1970.

De Gaulle left himself an escape, however. He told Brosio that France might reconsider its ties if there were a "substantial transformation" of the Alliance. For example, if NATO became a political alliance designed to "control and direct East-West relations," France might withdraw or refuse to accept allied policy.

De Gaulle obviously had in mind the Harmel study, now nearing completion, on the future tasks of the Alliance. His remarks probably were intended to warn the Fourteen against adopting any policy which would commit France to a "common political line" on East-West relations.

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NOTES

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Sierra Leone: The increasingly strained relations between Brigadier Juxon-Smith, leader of the ruling junta, and its other members have been brought to the flash point by his autocratic efforts to assume command of the army. All important junta members now seem determined to move against Juxon-Smith, possibly as early as next week, before he further complicates Sierra Leone's serious economic and political problems. Juxon-Smith probably is aware that forces are coalescing against him, but he lacks real support from the army and may not be able to head off action by his opponents. [REDACTED]

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